



OSRODEK POMOCY SPOŁECZNEJ SWARZĘDZ

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OVERVIEW – OPS

Osrodek Pomocy Społecznej (OPS) is a governmental organization in local level. Typical activities are social aid, social work and distribution financial and material means to satisfy basic needs of our clients. The main goal of our organization is to help people who have problems with social adaptation. We work with homeless, unemployed, addicted, people with disease, prisoners and victims of family violence, disabled and elderly people. One of many tasks, which we are realizing is funding and management of current activities in socio-therapeutic community centers, care centers and youth clubs for children from problematic families. We are planning to engage a volunteer to work in these places where she/he will work with children and youth especially from disadvantaged communities or/ and less - privileged families, but the range of volunteer activities depend of her/his interests and motivation - she/ he can find a field, where she/he can realize himself/ herself. It is possible to organize different kind of activities if volunteer need - she/he can work in each department of OPS.

Osrodek Pomocy Społecznej (OPS) has the experience in hosting volunteers for long term projects. (we have coordinated five long - term projects, which have finished successfully).

PROJECT ENVIROMENT

Swarzedz with a population of 40 000 is located in western Poland about 10 km from capital of Wielkopolska region - Poznan. Swarzedz is a suburban area and has a good connection with Poznan by bus and train (about 20 minutes by bus). Most of interesting places and cultural infrastructure is located in Poznan, which is a student's town with a few colleges and universities as well as places where students spend their free times. All of our volunteers lived in Poznan in student's dormitories (two/ three-person room). Living in student's dormitories positively affects volunteers language learning. Each day volunteers had arrived to work to Swarzedz or to nearby villages where the youth centers are located (Gruszczyn and Uzarzewo village). We are supervising the functioning of the five youth/community centers (four in the nearby villages, one in Swarzędz). Volunteers, which we have so far hosted only worked in two centers (in Swarzedz and Gruszczyn or Gruszczyn (village) and Uzarzewo (village)). In which areas will the volunteer work we will decide together after arriving in Poland.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR TRAINE

The main goal of project is to organize various activities for youth and children that are living in disadvantaged community or/and in less-privileged families. The main tasks of the project will be realized in 2 youth centers in Swarzędz municipality which were mentioned in point 1.

The volunteer should help workers to organize various activities for children and youth that take place in specific locations such as:

- sport activities (play football, play basketball, going to the swimming pool and organize sport competitions for children),
- educational activities (concerning emotions, solving conflicts, assertiveness, prevention against alcohol and drug addict, knowledge about human relations , cultural differences etc.),
- artistic activities (hand - made arts, drawing, painting, sculpture),
- cook courses (preparing healthy food and traditional dishes from Poland and from country that the volunteer is coming from),
- helping children in doing their homework and learning foreign language,
- events (Independence Day, Mother's Day, Christmas Day, Easter) trips (visiting museum, going to the theatre, to the cinema etc.) ceramic classes and participation in winter and summer camps.

We provide learning Polish language - the volunteer will have the possibility to participate in course of Polish language - two times a week for two/three hours. If the volunteer would had any difficulties and would like to receive extra help we can look for someone that could meet with volunteer and help in learning Polish language.

A volunteer can realize a "mini course" of his/ her native language for elderly people (if she/he wants - it is not obligatory).

Volunteer's tasks:

- participating in daily activities of youth centers,
- helping workers to organize some activities,
- organizing some activities for children and youth, the profile of her activity depends on her interesting and competences,
- organizing an event connected with her country and its heritage for young people from youth centers and their friends.

During her/his stay on the project the volunteer will gain new knowledge in the topic work with children and youth people. She/he will be also to develop his/her personality, gain new social competences and understand Polish culture, while meeting during her/his activities a lot of people from different social backgrounds. She/ he has to chance to learn Polish language.

CONTACT AND FURTHER INFO

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